

EKU Report

Eastern Kentucky University News for the Council on Postsecondary Education

February 2011



1,202 Degree Candidates Honored at Fall Commencement

U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki, above, and former ECU football coach Roy Kidd addressed 1,202 degree candidates at Eastern Kentucky University's annual fall commencement on Saturday, Dec. 18.



Economic Education Program Shows Positive Results in Local Schools

An economic education program established to help Madison County schoolchildren learn how to make wise financial decisions has proven successful in its inaugural year.

EKU's Center for Economics Education, Central Bank, the Kentucky Council on Economic Education and Madison County Schools partnered to implement "Economics: Math in Real life" in grades K-5 throughout the local school district. The initiative included economics and finance curriculum training for K-5 teachers throughout the local school district, and lessons then were integrated into mathematics and social studies content areas so students could learn real-life applications of the subjects.

A comparison of test scores before and after implementation shows that both teachers and students benefited from the curriculum. According to Dr. Cynthia Harter, director of EKU's Center for Economics Education, students in grades 2-5 performed better on economics post-tests after teachers taught the relevant lessons than they had on economics pre-tests. Also, students in grades 3-5 performed better on math post-tests after the lessons than they had on math pre-tests.

"So, teachers learned economics, and students learned both economics and math," Harter concluded. "We were able to provide teachers not only with training but also with a superb set of curriculum and materials not only to use in teaching the lessons we presented but to keep in the classroom and use for other lessons and activities in the future. This is the most effective teacher program we have implemented in terms of training, test scores, community involvement, and resources provided to the teachers."

Kathie Hickey, president and chief executive officer of the Kentucky Council on Economic Education, called "Economics: Math in Real Life" a "model for the state and nation to follow."

EKU Works with Local Schools to Offer English Transition Course

A collaborative project to offer an English transition course with area school districts continues EKU's commitment to developing high school partnerships to promote the college and workforce readiness of Kentucky's youth.

Four schools are participating with EKU's College of Education and Department of English and Theatre in the pilot year of a three-year project that will offer both reading and composition instruction designed to promote college and career readiness to high school seniors who did not meet ACT benchmarks for college freshman English.

High school teachers determine course design with the assistance of postsecondary faculty and the guidance of core standards released by the Kentucky Department of Education. This year, the course is offered at Madison Central, Madison Southern, Berea Independent and Somerset Independent High Schools.

Members of EKU's Department of English and Theatre are working as Professional Education Fellows with participating schools. The College of Education is providing funding assistance, as well as guidance, for the three-year project.

Bechtel Parsons Assists Student Veteran Relief Fund

EKU has received more than \$7,000 in employee donations and matching funds from Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass for the University's Student Veteran Relief Fund endowment project.

The Fund is being developed as part of Operation Veteran Success, a series of initiatives designed to make Eastern an even more veteran-helpful campus.

The goal for the endowed fund project is to generate enough annual revenue to provide short term loans to student veterans who find themselves in a financial crisis through no fault of their own.

"Through the generous donation of \$1,000, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass helped us kick off the fundraising drive to create the endowment," explained Lt. Col. Brett Morris, Ret., associate director of veterans affairs in the University's Student Outreach and Transition Office. "The employees decided to kick in with their own fund raising effort, so they created a challenge to raise \$3,000 for the endowment drive and to get their corporate offices to match those funds."

In less than three months, the employees exceeded their goal and, with the company's matching funds, donated \$6,102 to EKU's initiative.

EKU Joins "Best Should Teach" Initiative

EKU has become only the fourth educational institution in the nation to join the "Best Should Teach" initiative.

The College of Education received, and matched, a \$5,000 grant from the program, which promotes teaching as the highest profession because it nourishes all other professions and human endeavors, according to Dr. Sherwood Thompson, assistant dean of the College and principal investigator for the grant.

The grant will enable EKU's College of Education to:

- present an annual "Best Should Teach" lecture featuring a well-known speaker. The audience would be composed of high school teachers, graduate student teaching assistants, and faculty selected from the College of Education, College of Arts and Sciences, and Graduate School.

- sponsor a "Best Should Teach" Award in recognition of outstanding teaching ability. Awardees will be selected by faculty committees from the College of Education, College of Arts and Sciences and Graduate School and by local school districts. Gold Flame of Enlightenment lapel pins will be awarded to University recipients as well as local K-12 teachers. The honorees will be recognized at the lecture.

- place a bronze plaque outside the Combs Building featuring a "Best Should Teach" poem by the noted teacher educator/author who coined the phrase, the late Dr. Lindley Stiles, and a representation of the Best Should Teach Flame of Enlightenment.

"The 'Best Should Teach' program highlights our efforts to seek high-ability students who are capable of meeting the highly rigorous standards of our teacher education program," Thompson said, noting the many hurdles pre-service teachers must clear before even entering the classroom as full-time teachers. "This is one way to combat the perception that students only look at education because their other goals aren't working out. 'Best Should Teach' seeks individuals who list teaching as their primary interest and who have passion to serve in our nation's schools."



Eastern Plays Role in Selection of National Historic Site in Journalism

The Society of Professional Journalists has named White Hall State Historic Site, home of newspaper publisher Cassius Marcellus Clay, as the 2011 National Historic Site in Journalism thanks in large part to the efforts of EKU's Department of Communication, which nominated Clay's historic home for the honor.

Clay published an anti-slavery newspaper, *The True American*. He began printing in June 1845 in the heart of pro-slavery Kentucky despite threats to his life and business. Clay's objective was "to use a state and National Constitutional right – the freedom of the press – to change national and state laws, so as, by a legal majority, to abolish slavery."

On Tuesday, April 12, a year after the bicentennial of Clay's birth, EKU's Department of Communication and the University's campus chapter of SPJ will host a special recognition ceremony at White Hall. National SPJ President Hagit Limor will speak at the 11 a.m. event, followed by a reception.

Through the paper, printed in Lexington, Clay anticipated the reaction anti-slavery editorial matter in his paper would bring. He fortified the newspaper office with Mexican lances, guns and two brass cannons. He continued to publish the newspaper from Cincinnati after a mob seized his press, type and equipment.

SPJ's Historic Sites in Journalism program honors the people and places that have played important roles in U.S. journalism history. White Hall becomes only the second site in Kentucky, following the 1965 honor in Louisville for Henry Watterson.

Home School Choir Program Established

EKU's Stephen Collins Foster Academy for Musical Excellence (FAME) has created a Home School Choir program, which is open to home school students at elementary school-level (grades 4-8) throughout the central Kentucky region.

"We are very excited about the Home School Choir," said Dr. Rachel Taylor, who coordinates FAME programs and activities. "This program will provide an important resource to the home school community by offering an excellent musical experience for the students."

The mission of FAME, an outreach program of EKU's Department of Music, is to provide high-quality musical education to pre-college age students in Eastern's service area.

KCTCS GOOD NEWS REPORT

HIGHER EDUCATION BEGINS HERE

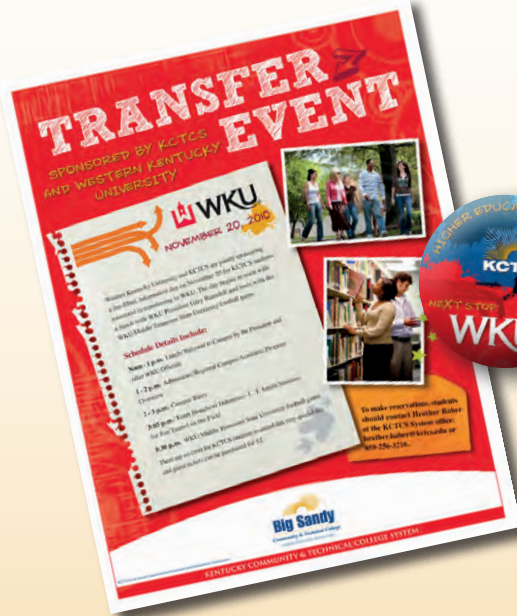
JANUARY 2011

WKU Hosts Potential KCTCS Transfer Students



Sixty KCTCS students attended a transfer event at Western Kentucky University (WKU) Saturday, November 20 that featured a welcome from WKU President Gary Ransdell, an admissions workshop, campus tour and the WKU/Middle Tennessee State University football game. The university's admission staff escorted the group throughout the entire day ensuring everyone received a real Hilltoppers welcome.

The WKU athletic staff extended their own unique welcome to the group by inviting them to participate in the football game's opening ceremony and featuring KCTCS signage on the stadium video board. One student was so impressed with the campus he asked if could transfer in January.



KENTUCKY COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM



Kentucky State University

January 2011

KSU School of Business Receives Reaffirmation of Accreditation



Dr. Gashaw Lake

Kentucky State University's School of Business recently received reaffirmation of its accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs. KSU's undergraduate business programs are accredited through 2020.

"I am happy because we have continued the legacy here. We have not failed the students," says Dr. Gashaw Lake, dean of the College of Professional Studies, where the School of Business resides.

KSU was accredited in November by the ACBSP to offer the Bachelor of Arts in Business degree specializing in the following programs: accounting, finance, general business, management, management information systems and marketing.

ACBSP is one of two major accrediting organizations that support and reward teaching excellence in business programs. Its mission is to develop, promote and recognize best practices that contribute to continuous improvement of business education and accredit qualified business programs.

Led by assistant professor of accounting Kim Sipes and School of Business interim chair Dr. Stephen Graham-Hill, the team of business professors began working earnestly toward ACBSP reaffirmation since the 2008-2009 school year. Lake says the business school is continuing to assess its programs with plans to add more faculty, online courses and smart classrooms.

The improvement plans include applying for accreditation of the business school's Master of Business Administration program for the first time. The university also will add an executive MBA program.

"We plan to be more competitive, and we plan to put the School of Business on the map," Lake says. "Accreditation helps us to recruit and retain good students and faculty. It helps us to continue our heritage of excellence."

Lake says he appreciates the leadership and support of KSU President Mary Evans Sias and interim Provost James Chapman for the success of the school's reaffirmation efforts.

"Business has been one of the strongest areas because of the number of students it attracts," Sias says. "This affirms our desire to produce professionals who will be leaders in a global society."

"It is clear that the faculty in the School of Business take a lot of pride in what they do and how they do it. That was evident in the outstanding job done on the reaffirmation visit," she says further.

"This is a major milestone," Chapman said when thanking the business faculty. "Thank you all for your diligence and hard work in making this happen. I applaud Dean Lake's leadership along with the faculty and staff who participated."

The business school's reaccreditation comes in addition to reaffirmation of the university's overall accreditation in 2009 by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Kentucky State University President Assumes Chair of APLU Board of Directors



President Mary Evans Sias

During the 2010 annual meeting of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, Dr. Mary Evans Sias, president of Kentucky State University, officially assumed the role of chair of the association's Board of Directors. Upon accepting her new role on Nov. 15 in Dallas, Texas, Sias challenged APLU members to be instruments for change.

APLU is a non-profit association of public research universities, land-grant institutions and state university systems with member campuses in all 50 states, U.S. territories and the District of Columbia. The association is governed by a chair and a board of directors elected from the member universities and university systems.

The association's membership comprises 218 institutions, consisting of state universities, land-grant universities and state-university systems. The total includes 76 U.S. land-grant institutions, of which 18 are the historically black institutions. In addition, APLU represents the interests of the nation's 33 American Indian land-grant colleges.

Sias has served on the executive committee for the APLU Commission on Access, Diversity and Excellence, whose primary focus is to develop a comprehensive agenda regarding the relationships between public higher education and the issues of human resources and social change.

KSU Celebrates International Education Week With Cultural Events

Kentucky State University's Office of Global Programming, the International Student Association and the Scholarships for Education and Economic Development program hosted a number of events in November in honor of International Education Week.

The celebration is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education to show the importance and benefits of international education and exchange. It is also part of a national effort to prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn and exchange experiences in the United States.

The celebration included a Parade of Flags, which proceeded down the campus' main drive, showing the community the various countries and ethnicities represented on campus. The week also included Latin cultural presentations and a series of lectures and discussions, engaging the campus and general public in discussion about diversity.



Famed Baritone William Ray Holds Vocal Master Class At KSU

William Ray has traveled throughout the United States and Europe headlining operas and orchestras, but he returned home to Kentucky State University in November to give a vocal master class to aspiring musicians.

He began his musical training in his hometown of Lexington. There he studied music and furthered his training at KSU, Oberlin College, where he earned his bachelor's degree, Case Western Reserve, Boston University, where he earned his master's, the Academy of Music in Vienna, Austria, and Heidelberg University in Germany.

His professional career spans more than 25 years, beginning at the Karamu Theater in Cleveland, Ohio, with the majority of his time spent in Austria and Germany singing for opera houses and orchestras. His knowledge of various languages helped win him roles as an actor and singer in German and Austrian theatrical productions as well as radio and television

work. He also has performed in Italy, France, Scandinavia, the Netherlands and Russia.



Baritone William Ray stands with (from left) Brandi Bonner, Qiana Young and Arielle Crosby, the three sopranos he evaluated during his master class.



We aspire to be the best public regional university in the South.

January 2011



Bob Twiggs

MSU Professor, Twiggs, named Space News' top 10 who made a difference

The international Space News authority "Space News" has named the top 10 space professionals in the world. On the list, President Barack Obama and Paypal/SpaceX founder Elon Musk along with Morehead State University's Space Science professor Bob Twiggs.

"It is unbelievable," said Twiggs. "To be ranked among those professionals, who are on the list, it is very humbling."

President Obama's national space policy is transforming NASA by revamping the manned spaceflight program and moving a significant portion of the U.S. space services component to private industry. SpaceX, called the "poster child for the Obama plan," has won the largest private contract from NASA to develop its commercial orbital transport system—the Falcon 9 rocket and Dragon capsule that will ultimately ferry astronauts to the International Space Station and beyond.

"Professor Twigg's recognition as one of the top 10 space professionals by Space News is a remarkable achievement. When Bob invented the CubeSat in 2001, I do not believe anyone imagined that it would revolutionize the small satellite industry-- but it certainly has. Advances in micro-miniaturization and MEMS devices have driven the evolution of satellite systems to smaller but very capable form factors and the CubeSat has dominated," said Dr. Ben Malphrus, chair of the Department of Earth and Space Science and director of the Space Science Center.

Twiggs, according to Space News, has witnessed a big development on the realm of small satellites. "After years of gestation, CubeSats—standardized space platforms measuring 10 centimeters on a side and weighing all of 1 kilogram—are being embraced like never before."

Twiggs helped found the Kentucky Space Program in 2004 and became a professor at MSU in 2009. He has helped lead the Space Science program in its goal of becoming a nationally recognized center for education and research in space systems development and operation.

The Kentucky Space program, of which MSU is a lead institution (along with the University of Kentucky), has developed its own CubeSat, KySat-1 which will fly as a secondary payload on NASA's Glory mission on Feb. 23.

MSU to be tobacco-free

MSU announced that it will become tobacco-free July 1, 2011, joining more than 400 colleges and universities throughout the country that have similar policies. Chewing and smokeless tobacco products also will be included in the ban.

"It is the policy of this University to promote the health, well-being and safety of our students, faculty and staff, as well as visitors to the campus. The University has an opportunity to dramatically impact the health and welfare of the members of our community and guests by making a change in the current campus tobacco practices," said Dr. Andrews.

Students, faculty and staff will be offered help to quit smoking before the new policy goes into effect. Students can contact the Caudill Health Clinic to begin a cessation program while faculty and staff will be able to receive information on smoking cessation assistance from MSU's Office of Human Resources.



MSU announces Eagle Excellence Award

Morehead State University announced a new scholarship program that will enable Kentucky first time freshmen to get “much more” from their Kentucky Education Excellence Scholarship (KEES) monies. The Eagle Excellence Award will begin in Fall 2011 and provide students the opportunity to double their earned KEES value.

“We are very excited to be able to offer this new award to Kentucky students who have worked hard in high school to earn valuable KEES money to attend college,” said MSU President Wayne D. Andrews.

“At MSU, we believe the KEES scholarship program established in 1998 by the General Assembly continues to be an excellent investment made by the Commonwealth to support Kentucky students and we are willing to match that investment by doubling the KEES award for qualifying students enrolling at Morehead State University. This new scholarship is an example of MSU’s strong commitment to maintaining access to higher education for all Kentucky students.”

MSU at Mt. Sterling host celebration to honor Billy Joe Hall

Morehead State University at Mt. Sterling recently held a celebration in honor of MSU alumnus and Montgomery County businessman Billy Joe Hall.

Hall was an avid supporter of MSU and its Mt. Sterling campus. He worked with former MSU president Dr. C. Nelson Grote during the initial planning phases of establishing regional campus locations. According to many, he was instrumental in bringing the campus to the community.

After Hall passed away in spring 2010, his family approached MSU about starting a fundraising campaign in his memory. They pledged to be lead supporters of the fundraising efforts. Several individuals and business also contributed lead gifts ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

A total of \$60,000 has been pledged or contributed in Hall’s memory.

The proceeds raised will be used to support MSU Mt. Sterling and MSU’s College of Business and Public Affairs.



MSU President Wayne D. Andrews, left, signed the documents Nov. 1 to acquire the old Rowan County library building from the library board. Also taking part in the ceremony were Helen Northcutt, library board president, and Kay Freeland, board secretary.

MSU acquires old library for KCTM

MSU will have a new home for its Kentucky Center for Traditional Music. MSU has agreed to acquire the old Rowan County Public Library, located at 185 E. Main Street, from the Library Board.

“The Traditional Music Program is among the fastest growing academic traditional music programs at any school of higher education. We are fortunate here that MSU wants to support a dynamic environment in which students have an exceptional opportunity to study this aspect of our cultural traditions. The right time is now and the place is MSU for this remarkable program,” said Raymond W. McLain, director.

Funding for the acquisition was made possible by a \$1 million matching grant commitment from the W. Paul and Lucille Little Foundation that was received in 2009 to support the Kentucky Center for Traditional Music’s and its “Classroom to the Community” program. The grant was matched dollar-per-dollar by the state from the Regional University Excellence Trust Fund.

Dr. John P. Ernst named chair

Dr. John P. Ernst has been named chair of MSU’s Department of History, Philosophy, Religion and Legal Studies. He had served as the department’s interim chair since March 2008. A Louisville native, Dr. Ernst first came to Morehead State in 1994 as a fixed-term instructor of history. He earned his doctorate from the University of Kentucky, where he worked with Dr. George C. Herring, the leading Vietnam War scholar in America.

Dr. Ernst is an expert on the Vietnam War with two book authorships, including “Forging a Fateful Alliance: Michigan State University and the Vietnam War” and “The War that Never Ends: New Perspectives on the Vietnam War” co-edited with Dr. David L. Anderson.



MURRAY
STATE UNIVERSITY

Six-year graduation rates lead Kentucky public regionals

A recently published report on six-year graduation rates found that Murray State University scored high marks when comparing its six-year graduation rates to other public institutions in Kentucky. The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) used federal data as its source. The most recent IPEDS (2008-09) reported Murray State with the highest six-year graduation rate of the regional public universities in the Commonwealth. The data also tracked the university's success in the past 10 years, showing Murray with the highest six-year graduation rate increase among the regional publics since the year 2000.

School of Agriculture gets new name

Murray State University recently changed the name of its School of Agriculture to the Hutson School of Agriculture, marking the first time in the university's history that an MSU school or college was named for an individual or family. The school was named in recognition of the Hutson family's support of, and contributions to, agriculture in western Kentucky and the surrounding region, and for the Hutsons' substantial financial support of the university and, specifically, its school of agriculture. Cumulative gifts from the Hutson family total \$3 million.

Invention by MSU alumna Lisa Crites easing recovery trauma for women

MSU alumna Lisa Crites appeared on Lifetime Television to talk about her invention aimed at easing recovery trauma for breast cancer mastectomy patients. Crites' "Shower Shirt" is the first FDA-approved post-mastectomy garment that is used during showering to prevent post-surgical infections.



Johnson selected to participate in special Korean festival

Dennis L. Johnson, director of bands and symphony orchestra at Murray State, was invited to give master classes and serve as the principal guest conductor for the first Korean International Wind Band Festival in Seoul in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Korean War and the celebration of the recapture of the city during that conflict.



Flying squid caught in the act by Murray alumnus

Photos taken by Murray State alumnus Bob Hulse were featured in Scientific American. Hulse captured 14 photos in burst mode of flying squid while aboard the National Geographic Explorer cruise ship with his wife, Deb. His are the first photos of the squid actually flying to be taken in the past 35 to 40 years; they were circulated throughout the scientific community.

RBIC client receives top honor

StarGaze Energy, a client of the Murray State University Regional Business and Innovation, received the 2010 Micro-Enterprise Business Center of the Year award in Kentucky. The award was presented by the Partners for Entrepreneurial Advancement in Kentucky. StarGaze Energy provides clean energy solutions to commercial and industrial businesses with a high energy demand, both locally and nationwide.

Miller publishes book, receives international award

Dr. Fred Miller, Hutchens Distinguished Professor of Marketing and Business GIS (Geographic Information Systems) in Murray State University's college of business, received two recognitions. First, ESRI Press has just published *Getting to Know ESRI Business Analyst*, his second book dealing with GIS applications in business. Miller's *GIS Tutorial in Marketing* was the first text designed to integrate GIS applications into business decision-making. His second recognition came at the opening day (Academic Day) ceremonies at the University of Regensburg in Germany. Miller received the Bene Merenti Award for outstanding contribution to internationalization at the University of Regensburg. He has been Murray State's director of Regensburg programs since the partnership was formed in 1991.

Carter named executive committee officer for Friends of KET

Jim Carter, MSU vice president for institutional advancement, was named president-elect of the Friends of KET board of directors. A volunteer network, the board assists in the advancement of KET's mission in a number of ways, including advocacy on behalf of KET's programs and services, promotion of KET in their own communities, and strengthening KET's financial support.

Murray State MBA program enjoys enrollment record

The fall semester 2010 marked the highest enrollment ever for the Murray State University college of business master of business administration (MBA) degree program. Several factors contributed to the 16.7 percent increase, including a highly ranked online MBA program and a new PMBA course of study at the university's Henderson campus.

National student enrollment record set by MSU program

The American Humanics/Youth and Nonprofit Leadership program at Murray State set a national student enrollment record for 2009-10 with 514 students, and has led the nation in student enrollment for 19 consecutive years. AH/YNL is the recipient of 35 local awards and 10 national awards, and has generated more than \$1,744,000 through fundraising, grants and scholarships to address campus and community needs.

Student wins national award with "freedom of speech" PSA

Murray student Christopher Bryant won second place from the National Association of Broadcasters Education Foundation competition for his television public service announcement on "What freedom of speech means to me." His winning entry can be viewed online at www.nabef.org/initiatives/2010FOS.asp.

Wallace & Gromit and MSU professor test local invention

Dr. Bob Lochte's research on Nathan B. Stubblefield's invention from 100-plus years ago was featured on an episode of *Wallace & Gromit's World of Invention*. Lochte, chair of the department of journalism and mass communications, is a noted expert on the experiments of Stubblefield and aided a production crew from Aardman Animations, the British company that produces *Wallace & Gromit*, in building and testing a replica of Stubblefield's 1902 earth conduction wireless telephone system. End result: it worked.

MSU student wins big with his word skills on *Wheel of Fortune*

Murray State University student Hunter York from Hardin, Ky., showed off his skill with words and phrases on the long-running TV game show *Wheel of Fortune*. He was the big winner, earning \$24,000+ and a trip to Hawaii. York is a junior chemistry/pre-medicine major.





NKU Institute for Talent Development and Gifted Studies Will Help Local Students, Teachers and Parents

NKU recently announced the establishment an Institute for Talent Development and Gifted Studies that will seek to maximize learning opportunities for gifted and talented students in the region and beyond.

To achieve this mission, the institute will offer a quality gifted and talented education program that focuses on talent identification, talent development, research and advocacy. The institute will increase local preparedness for postsecondary education, increase

the number of Kentuckians with certificates and degrees, prepare graduates for life and work in Kentucky and benefit the Kentucky economy.

One of the institute's most popular activities is the ExploreMore! enrichment program, which offers opportunities for gifted K-8 students a broad range of enrichment courses. Students have an opportunity to select interactive, hands-on courses that match their interests and abilities.

In addition to providing services for youth, the institute offers a master's degree in gifted education, professional development workshops to area teachers and educational resources to local educators.

The institute will also serve as an advocate, hosting a Parent Lecture Series which will help parents of gifted children as they navigate through the experiences of raising a gifted and talented youth.

NKU men's soccer wraps up historic season

The NKU men's soccer team had a historic season in 2010.

The year started with the grand opening of a new campus soccer stadium.

Throughout the season, NKU was led by senior forward Steven Beattie, who posted a school record 26 goals in leading the Norse to a 20-2-3 record and a Division II national championship.

Along the way, head coach John Basalyga was named national coach of the year and Beattie was named national player of the year.

Beattie was then selected by Toronto FC in January's MLS draft.

NKU Partnership to Engage Public in Dialogue on Growing Obesity Problem in Northern Kentucky

The NKU Wellness Center and the NKU Scripps Howard Center for Civic Engagement have partnered to engage public dialogue and feedback on a number of influencing factors and proposed strategies to address the growing obesity problem in Northern Kentucky. The initiative, titled "Healthy Monday: Let's Talk," invites members of the NKU community to engage in weekly discussions on a variety of issues related to obesity.

Specifically, through utilization of both Facebook and NKU's existing Democracy Square (a large whiteboard located on campus soliciting public feedback on various issues), the campus community will be encouraged every Monday to share ideas and opinions on obesity-related issues that have received recent attention in the national press.

The goal for Healthy Monday: Let's Talk is to develop a vast and local repository of grassroots suggestions and opinions that can be utilized to support the efforts of those actively involved in working toward finding and implementing solutions to curb the obesity epidemic throughout the region, along with raising the community's overall awareness to the issue of obesity itself.

Over the past four years, the NKU Wellness Center has been a strong advocate of the Healthy Monday campaign and is currently promoting a number of initiatives on campus, including both Meatless Monday and The Monday Mile. These NKU initiatives were recently highlighted on National Public Radio.

Recently, with the formation of the NKY Healthy Monday coalition, a number of Healthy Monday programs have been launched throughout the community involving schools, neighborhood associations, restaurants and worksites. Community partners such as the NKHD and the City of Covington have been involved in these efforts.

Healthy Monday: Let's Talk will also include a classroom component designed to engage students in a setting in which they can exchange their ideas and discuss how their field of study can directly and indirectly affect the issue of obesity. For example, a construction management class might discuss how a lack of sidewalks affects obesity.

DID YOU KNOW?

The NKU Mayerson Student Philanthropy Project recently reached a milestone, topping the half-million dollar mark for grants awarded during the programs 10.5 years. The project turns NKU classes from various disciplines into boards of philanthropy that evaluate local nonprofit need and award real money to worthy agencies.



UK Honors, Partners with Civil Rights Leader

Georgia Powers, the pioneering Kentucky State Senator who fought for civil rights for all Kentuckians, was recognized on campus during the fall semester. The University of Kentucky announced that it will house important papers and interviews related to Powers' extraordinary career. UK also will endow a chair in the name of this trailblazing legislator as part of UK's Center for Research on Violence Against Women.

Powers became the first African-American and woman to hold a seat in the Kentucky State Senate in 1968. Starting with her first bill - a statewide fair housing law - Powers carved out a 21-year career fighting for civil rights legislation that prohibited sex, job, and age discrimination.

Researchers for years to come will be able to study the impact Powers had not only in Louisville and her home state of Kentucky, but as a leader in the nation's Civil Rights Movement through two new collections being donated to the UK Libraries consisting of the legislator's papers and a selection of oral history interviews.

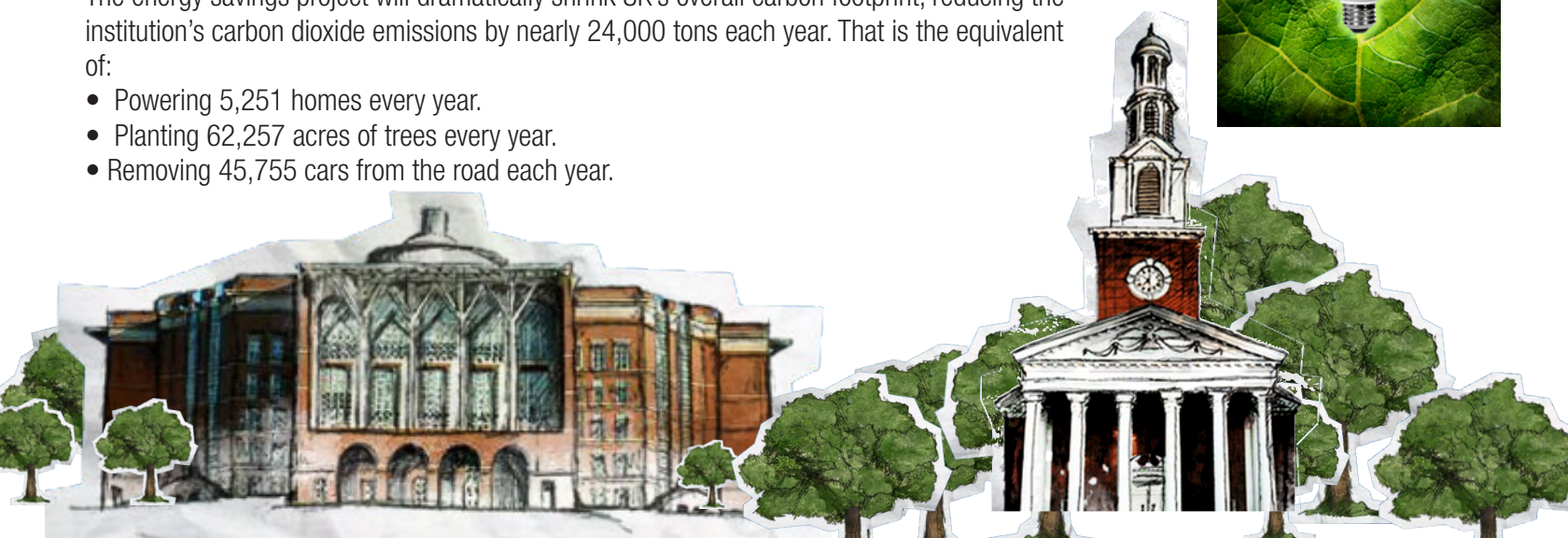
In addition to the donation of materials to UK Libraries, the University also will be home to the Georgia Davis Powers Endowed Chair. This is the fourth chair created by the Center for Research on Violence Against Women and will focus on multicultural studies of violence against women and the unique experiences of women of color.

University Launches \$25 million Energy Savings Project

UK recently unveiled a University-wide energy savings plan that will conserve energy and improve the efficiency of 61 campus buildings. The project will install a wide variety of technologies that focus on lighting, mechanical systems, and water usage. When completed in about a year, this \$24.6 million project will save the University about \$2.4 million annually.

The energy savings project will dramatically shrink UK's overall carbon footprint, reducing the institution's carbon dioxide emissions by nearly 24,000 tons each year. That is the equivalent of:

- Powering 5,251 homes every year.
- Planting 62,257 acres of trees every year.
- Removing 45,755 cars from the road each year.





UK's Bestselling Author Releases Second Novel

UK writing professor and *New York Times* No. 1 bestselling author Kim Edwards received some press about the release of her second novel, "The Lake of Dreams." Edwards' first novel, "The Memory Keeper's Daughter," was a worldwide phenomenon. It spent 122 weeks on the NY Times bestseller list, including a whopping 23 weeks in the number one spot, and was even turned into a television movie. Her new work was featured in the *Courier-Journal*, the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, and several other regional and national publications.

Campus Called Upon to "Think" About UK's Future

The University of Kentucky executive administration recently unveiled the ThinkUK 2.0 Initiative.

The Initiative is viewed as a unique opportunity to redesign UK as a flagship university for the future, and in doing so to address the budget constraints the University continues to face. It is an opportunity to exert more control over the institution's destiny rather than being forced solely to react to the fluctuations of the state and national economies. More specifically, the near-term goal is to generate resources for UK's highest priorities.

**thinkUK
2.0**

The ThinkUK 2.0 Initiative is designed to generate ideas from across the campus community. Faculty, staff, and students are asked to suggest both major reconfigurations and modest innovations, all with an eye toward improving effectiveness, reducing costs, and generating additional revenue.



A Student Government Service

UK Student Government Launches Campus Safety Initiative

UK Student Government, LexTran officials, and Lexington city government leaders announced an exciting new downtown transportation option in early January. Cats Cruiser, a late night transportation service, will enhance safety efforts of the University and surrounding community.

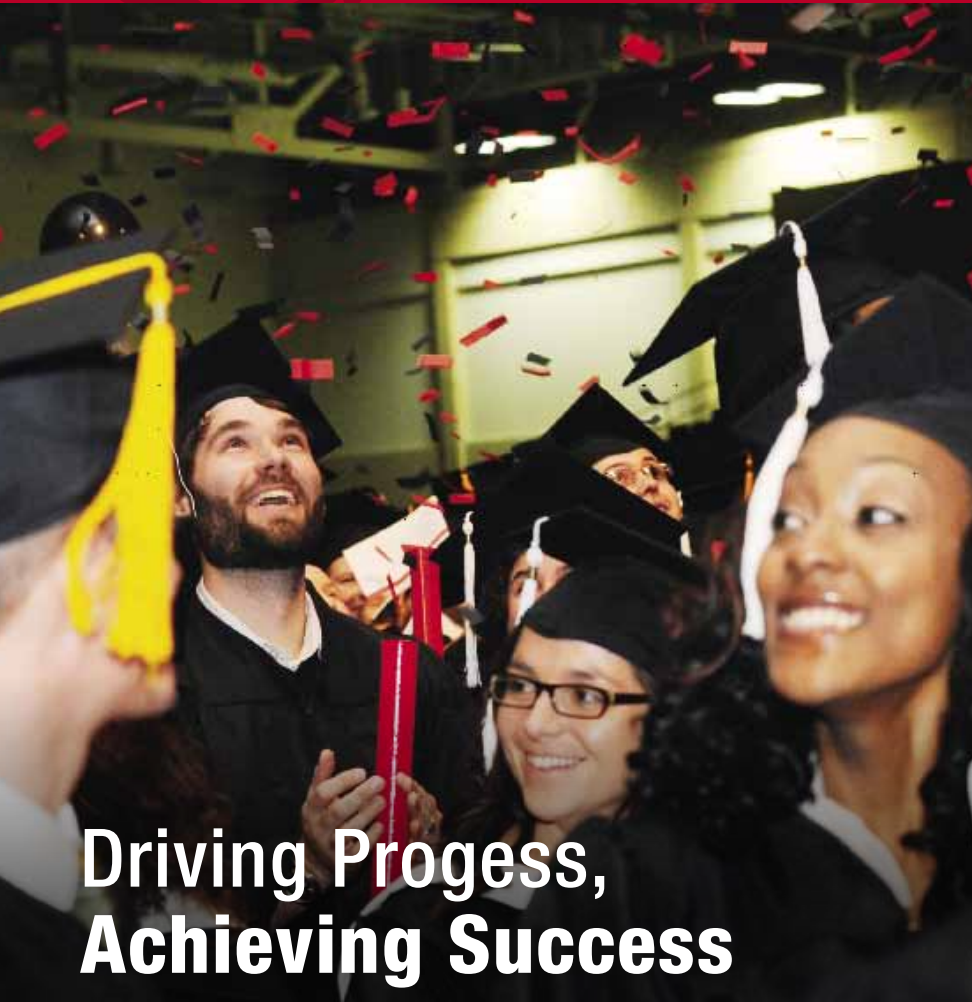
Cats Cruiser was created by the Student Government, who collaborated with a variety of groups both on and off campus to make this project a reality. The program was initiated following student comments and concerns regarding transportation during high-risk weekend times. After researching UK's benchmark institutions, Student Government quickly realized it was an important part of many benchmark institution's student service offerings.

The service consists of four, fixed-stop bus routes. Buses will circulate approximately every 20-30 minutes at select downtown locations. Students will be allowed to utilize this service for free by presenting a valid UK student ID. Non-students also can take advantage of this service for \$1 per ride. The service will run throughout campus and surrounding neighborhoods on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m.



The President's Report

Issue 19 January 2011



Driving Progress, Achieving Success

Despite a tough economy we are achieving success at UofL.

In order to stay on this successful path we need to maintain base funding.

- ▶ We cannot cut any more without hurting our students' education.
- ▶ Tuition is directly connected to the state's support of higher education; as state support declines, it becomes tougher for students to afford and attend college.

We are meeting you in the middle to ensure we continue to be successful.

- ▶ We have kicked off the university's largest fundraising campaign EVER.
- ▶ We are implementing cost-savings measures wherever we can – more than \$100 million in cost savings or avoidance.
- ▶ We are turning under-performing assets like our Shelby campus into revenue and job creators for Kentucky. For example, 9,800 jobs were created from direct and indirect effects of the university between FY03 and FY09.



A Letter from the President

From my days as State Budget Director, I remember when Kentucky legislators would arrive in Frankfort for the beginning of a legislative session. They were exciting times and were a lot of fun as I got to renew old friendships, and had the pleasure of talking to state lawmakers about policy and the economic future of our state. As always, I looked forward to walking the hallways and talking with members of the General Assembly.



However, in recent sessions of the legislature, the discussions haven't been nearly as much fun, for me or for our state lawmakers. The state of Kentucky, like many other states, has faced tough financial times – the worst economic downturn since World War II. While we are beginning to see an economic turnaround, it will be several years before Kentucky is able to replace the 100,000 jobs lost in the state since December 2007. As a result, state universities, along with other state agencies, have experienced budget cuts to balance the state budget. As a matter of fact, the University of Louisville is in the midst of its 11th budget cut in 11 years.

We understand the Commonwealth's financial situation. In response, our faculty, staff and administrators have rolled up our sleeves and recommitted ourselves to building on the incredible progress that's been made over the past decade. We've kicked off our largest fundraising campaign EVER. We've led all state universities in virtually every significant academic measure of progress over the past ten years. Among those measures – increase in graduation rate, number of baccalaureate and doctoral degrees and increase in ACT scores of incoming freshmen – all while squeezing our own budget. We know that lawmakers recognize the value of higher education and the importance it has on economic development for the entire Commonwealth. Given this, I am certain that as the state's economy slowly improves we will be able to look to Frankfort for additional help. We appreciate the Governor and General Assembly's efforts to refrain from cutting us any more because of the impact it will have on our progress.

I look forward to reminiscing with my friends in the legislature over the next several weeks. But more importantly, I look forward to talking to them about Kentucky's future and the impact that only education can have on the economic strength of our state.



With over 750 student veterans on campus, UofL continues the dialogue to support students on campuses nationwide.

UofL hosts Veteran Symposium for Higher Education

Employees from universities nationwide will gather in Louisville next month to discuss the future of veterans in higher education. The University of Louisville will be host to the 3rd Annual Veteran Symposium for Higher Education, Feb. 21-22 at the Brown Hotel in downtown Louisville.

The conference is designed to help universities become more veteran-friendly. More than a dozen presenters, including student veterans, will discuss best practices, research and experiences. This is the third veteran symposium UofL has hosted.

"The Symposium is an opportunity for scholars and practitioners to share how they are engaging students that are also military veterans," said Tom Jackson, vice president for student affairs. "Participants truly learn from the various experiences other campuses are having in these efforts. Ultimately, it is the student and the university that benefits because the outreach to students, and the services universities are able to provide are improved."



Dean Terry Singer announces the largest grant in history for the Kent School of Social Work.

Kent School program aims to reduce teen pregnancy, disease risk

The University of Louisville's Kent School of Social Work will work with several community youth-serving organizations to help teenagers avoid unhealthy relationships and risky behavior, thanks to a five-year, \$4.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The federal grant from the department's Office of Adolescent Health will be used to test the impact of two teaching programs about teen risky sexual behavior, with the intent to reduce teen pregnancy, violence and transmission of sexually transmitted diseases.

Details of the program called CHAMPS, for Creating Healthy Adolescents through Meaningful Prevention Services, were announced January 5 at a news conference at Americana Community Center, one of the partner organizations.

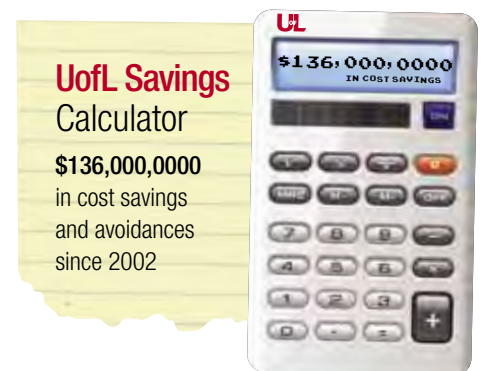
"This is a project that really will make a difference," President James Ramsey said at the announcement. "This is a big day for us, a big day for the community."

► Learn more about this phenomenal program at louisville.edu/uofltoday



Education Is King

Hundreds of Kentuckians celebrated historically black Simmons College and its new relationship with the University of Louisville at a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event titled "Education is King." Simmons President Rev. Dr. Kevin Cosby and UofL President James Ramsey spoke about the importance of cooperation between Simmons College and UofL to make college degrees more accessible to African Americans in Louisville. The two leaders also presented the first Charles H. Parrish, Jr. Achievement Award to David and Betty Jones for their work and philanthropy involving higher education. The community event was held at St. Stephen Church and was attended by Gov. Steve Beshear, U.S. Senator Rand Paul, Congressman John Yarmuth and Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer.





Continued growth, impact expected for WKU's Confucius Institute

After spending a week in China and attending a Confucius Institute conference, WKU President Gary Ransdell expects continued growth for WKU's Chinese programs. "Building a significant Chinese relationship for our faculty, staff and students is critically important," he said. "The Chinese economy is second only to the U.S. economy and closing fast. The Chinese education systems are quickly becoming as strong as any nation's. And with China's incredible population, they are quickly becoming a major cultural, educational and economic influence across the globe."

The primary focus for Dr. Ransdell was an international conference at the Confucius Institute Headquarters in Beijing. The conference attracted presidents and Confucius Institute directors from more than 300 universities worldwide.

"Specifically we were able to learn what other CI's are doing with language, culture, programming and arts and really get a feel for the potential for a Confucius Institute," he said. WKU's Confucius Institute, the first in Kentucky, was established last spring.

From left are Professor Li Jianping, Vice President of Sichuan International Studies University; Madam Xu Lin, Director-General of Hanban and Chief Executive of Confucius Institute Headquarters; WKU President Gary A. Ransdell; Dr. Wei-Ping Pan, Director of WKU's Confucius Institute and WKU's Institute for Combustion Science and Environmental Technology.

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children moving office to WKU

The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children is relocating its international headquarters to WKU from the University of Winnipeg in Canada. A generous gift from Dixie and Pete Mahurin of Bowling Green makes the move possible.

Founded in 1975, the Council's purpose is to focus world attention on gifted and talented children and ensure the realization of their valuable potential to the benefit of humankind. In addition to holding a biennial conference, the Council publishes the journal *Gifted and Talented International* and a newsletter *World Gifted*. The relocation kicks off The Center for Gifted Studies' 30th year celebration of providing opportunities to children who are gifted and talented, their educators, and their parents. Participants in The Center's programs have come from all 50 states and 33 countries representing six continents.

WKU, Greater Owensboro EDC announce partnership

WKU and the Greater Owensboro Economic Development Corporation recently announced an economic development partnership creating Owensboro-based applied research programs in plant biotechnology and food science. The partnership includes lab space at the Owensboro Centre for Business and Research where full-time WKU-Owensboro faculty can interface with existing companies and help foster startup companies.

Dr. Ransdell said the partnership is part of the Memorandum of Agreement between WKU, Daviess County Fiscal Court, and GO-EDC committed to exploring opportunities for applied research programs that fit the Owensboro economy and can positively impact economic development.

The Centre is a 38,000 square-foot business incubation and research center located in a newly renovated 100-year-old tobacco warehouse converted into office and research space supporting high tech development in food science, plant biotechnology, and life sciences. The Centre will officially open in March when science wet lab space is completed.



Nick Brake, President/CEO of Greater Owensboro Economic Development Corp., announces WKU's partnership in Owensboro.



3 selected for Teacher Hall of Fame

Three outstanding educators have been selected for the fourth class of the Gov. Louie B. Nunn Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame. The three chosen by a statewide selection committee are the late Artie Johnson Hankins, Patricia J. Morris and Deidra Hylton Patton. They will be inducted during a ceremony at 1 p.m. (ET) March 1 at the State Capitol.

The newest members of the Gov. Louie B. Nunn Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame are (from left): Artie Johnson Hankins, Patricia J. Morris and Deidra Hylton Patton.

Hankins, a native of the Big Hill community, taught in Butler County schools for 44 years. Between 1933 and 1954, she taught at rural one-room schools at Limestone, Youngtown, Greenwood, Science Hill, Big Muddy and Hickory Stand. From 1954 to 1977, she taught third grade at Morgantown Elementary.

Morris, a native of Louisville, has taught history for 30 years. Since 1986, she has taught American history and Advanced Placement classes at Ballard High School. She taught at Jeffersontown High from 1967 to 1971 and at Sacred Heart Model School from 1984 to 1986.

Patton, a native of Hazard who grew up in Hindman, has been a teacher for 28 years. Since 1999, Patton has been gifted and talented coordinator at Boyd County schools and K-5 gifted education teacher at Cannonsburg Elementary.

WKU student awarded Clinton Scholarship to study at the American University in Dubai

Michael Marcell, a WKU student from Louisville with a double major in International Affairs and Journalism, has been awarded a William Jefferson Clinton Scholarship to study at the American University in Dubai during the Spring 2011 semester.

The William Jefferson Clinton Scholarship is offered through the Clinton Presidential Foundation and the American University in Dubai. The goal of the scholarship is to give American students the opportunity to study in the Arab world. The Clinton Scholarship will pay for Marcell's tuition, room and board while he is studying in Dubai.

Marcell was first introduced to the Middle East and Islamic cultures through his year-long deployment as a sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps in Iraq and the United Arab Emirates. His experience made him realize that he would like to return to learn about the beauty and sophistication of the Arab world outside a combat theatre.



Michael Marcell



WKU reduces energy use during break

WKU realized a significant reduction in energy usage during the two-week winter break. According to Christian Ryan-Downing, WKU's sustainability coordinator, electricity usage was reduced by 34.5 percent and natural gas usage was reduced by 16.39 percent. The savings of more than 950,000 kilowatt hours also resulted in a reduction of 682 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent in WKU's carbon footprint while the lower natural gas usage saved an additional 161 metric tons.

"That's like eliminating the pollutants of 160 automobiles for one year," Ryan-Downing said. "This amount of electricity is equivalent to the average annual electrical consumption for 86 U.S. homes and would have needed about 403 tons of coal to generate." The University was closed from Dec. 20 through Jan. 2. Faculty, staff and students were asked to unplug appliances while the Energy Management team reset thermostats and took other measures to reduce energy consumption during that period.

For more WKU news, go to <http://wkunews.wordpress.com/>.



News from the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities February 2011

AIKCU interns serving in state agencies this spring (including two at CPE)



Eleven students from six AIKCU institutions – **Alice Lloyd College, Berea College, Campbellsville University (5), St. Catharine College (2), Union College and University of the Cumberlands** – will spend the spring semester interning in state agencies as part of AIKCU's Frankfort Semester Internship Program. During their internship in

the state capital students work 30 hours per week in their assigned agencies and complete two academic seminars focusing on state government issues and policy-making. The program is tailored to give college upper-classmen an up-close look at state government and to encourage students to consider public service as a career. Two interns are assigned to the Council on Postsecondary Education this semester.

AIKCU kicks off Senate Bill 1 Faculty Development Initiative

Nearly 30 representatives from 19 AIKCU campuses, along with representatives from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) and the Kentucky Educational Professional Standards Board (EPSB) and other key partners, gathered in Frankfort on January 10 to discuss the opportunities, expectations, and responsibilities facing the group under the terms of AIKCU's \$100,000 Senate Bill 1 implementation grant from the Commonwealth of Kentucky. AIKCU has hired Dr. Pam Rogers, former superintendent of the Boyle County public schools and KDE Associate Commissioner, to oversee the project.

Campuses celebrate Martin Luther King Day with service

Several AIKCU member campuses embraced the nationwide call to make the Martin Luther King holiday “a day on, not day off.” Students, faculty and staff participated in of service projects to celebrate King’s legacy of service and commitment to peace and justice. The wide variety of MLK Day service projects ranged from creating cards for cancer patients and overseas troops (**Bellarmino University**) to working side-by-side with local high school students to decorate t-shirts for abused children (**Lindsey Wilson College**) to making sandwiches for homeless shelters and knitting blanket squares for Project Build-a-Bed (**Transylvania University**). These are just a sample of service projects that took place at campuses across the state. Additionally, many AIKCU campuses held events to celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. More:

<http://www.aikcu.org/2011/01/24/campuses-celebrate-martin-luther-king-day>.

SACS approves new advanced degrees at St. Catharine College and Midway College

St. Catharine College and Midway College both received approval from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges to offer advanced degrees at the SACS annual meeting in Louisville in early December.

St. Catharine College was approved to move from a SACS Level II to Level III status. St. Catharine’s initial graduate offerings will be master’s degrees in Health Leadership and Promotion and Community and Regional Leadership beginning in January 2012. More:

<http://www.aikcu.org/2010/12/13/st-catharine-college-to-offer-masters-degrees-in-2012/>

Midway College received approval to move from a SACS level III to a level V (doctoral degree granting) institution to offer the Doctor of Pharmacy degree. The SACS approval is the first of two steps necessary for Midway to gain full accreditation for the Midway College of Pharmacy, slated to open in Paintsville this fall. Midway’s pharmacy program is currently under review by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE).

More: <http://www.aikcu.org/2011/01/06/midway-college-gains-approval-from-sacs-to-offer-doctoral-degrees/>

84 year-old finally receives degree after chance meeting with Bellarmine president

A random encounter with Bellarmine University president Joseph J. McGowan put 84-year-old Robert Striebich back on the path to graduate. The retired insurance agent, who works part-time as a security guard at the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage in Louisville, mentioned to McGowan during a conversation at the Center that he had attended Bellarmine in the 1950s but left just short of earning his degree.

McGowan asked his staff to check into Striebich’s records, and discovered that the military veteran and former transfer student had actually accumulated enough credits to graduate from Bellarmine with a degree in sociology. Striebich received his degree to a standing ovation during Bellarmine’s December commencement. More:

<http://www.aikcu.org/2010/12/16/84-year-old-finally-gets-his-bellarmino-degree-after-chance-meeting-with-president-mcgowan/>